

Remarks

Claims 9 and 12-14 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form with all base claim limitations and to overcome the § 112 rejections. This has been done in the new claims submitted here. New independent claim 22 corresponds to now-canceled claim 1 combined with now-canceled claims 7 and 9. New claims 31-33 correspond, respectively, to now-canceled claims 12-14. New claims 23-30 and 34-35 depend from new independent claim 22 are also deemed to be allowable.

§ 112 Rejection

In response to the rejection of Claim 1 under § 112, the preamble of new claim 22 has been written to recite "A method for using a screen assembly . . .".

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 1-8, 10-11, and 15-16 have been rejected under § 103 based on Bakula (U.S. 5,417,793) in view of Shah (U.S. 5,853,583). These claims have been canceled. New independent claim 36 presented here recites that the glue applied to the screening material is moisture-curing hot melt glue. Neither Bakula nor Shah have any teaching or suggestion to use such moisture-curing hot melt glue in a screen assembly. Bakula discloses only epoxy as an adhesive for bonding screen layers together. Moisture-curing hot melt glue is different from such epoxies in both structure, use, and in results achieved in a screen assembly.

Applicants note that the cited Bakula U.S. Patent is cited prior art in U.S. Patent 6,669,985 B2 which is a parent of the present application and that U.S. Patent 6,669,985 B2 (co-owned with the present invention) claims, inter alia, a method for making a screen assembly using moisture-curing hot melt glue. New claim 37 incorporates a method like that of claim 1 of U.S. Patent 6,669,985 B2 which recites a method for making a screen assembly with moisture-curing hot melt glue.

New Claim 41

New claim 41 combines some of the subject matter and limitations of now-canceled claim 1 and of now-canceled claim 14 (which was indicated as allowable if rewritten to include all base claim limitations). Claim 14 recites a method in which part

of vibratory shaker's deck is received in a corresponding notch in a screen assembly crossmember. Applicants respectfully submit that this is neither taught nor suggested by any art of record. Applicants note that claims to a screen assembly (similar to that in the new method claim 41 submitted here) and to a shale shaker with such a screen assembly are now pending in co-owned U.S. Application Ser. No. 10/057,755 and submitted herewith is a copy of the Response To Office Action Mailed 12.02/03 in that application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims submitted here define nonobvious subject matter which is patentable with respect to the cited art and any possible legal combination thereof.

Conclusion

Applicants appreciate the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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